



Community Services for Autistic Adults and Children
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November 28, 2007

The Honorable Nancy Floreen
Montgomery County Council
100 Maryland Ave, 6th Floor
Rockville, MD 20850

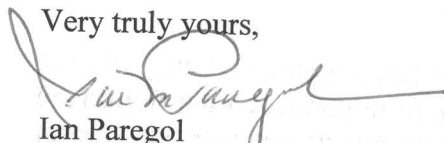
Dear Councilmember Floreen

On behalf of CSAAC, a longstanding Montgomery County non-profit organization serving individuals with autism, I wish to thank you for your efforts in assisting our agency build our capacity to serve in Montgomery County. I commend you on your vision and understanding that one-time building impact taxes levied upon non-profit organizations (which have no funding to support such a tax) while providing a short-term economic lift to the County, drastically hinders the ability of those same non-profits to provide desperately needed services in Montgomery County. Thank you so much for leading the Council in the discussion to amend the County Code to provide that building permits governing the construction of facilities built in furtherance of qualifying social service missions be exempt from all taxes and fees except the County building permit fee.

Your grasp of the realities of social service organization funding, your recognition of the County's 'big picture' social service needs, in conjunction with your leadership in ensuring that this policy change came to fruition is greatly appreciated. In addition, your follow-up with our concerns, the communication with your staff about this issue which you fostered, as well as the access and approachability you encouraged were exemplary.

Once again, thank you for supporting CSAAC and its mission: enabling individuals with autism achieve their highest potential and contribute as confident members of their community. Wishing you all the best for the coming New Year.

Very truly yours,



Ian Paregol
Executive Director, CSAAC